

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 18696 311034Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 EUR-12 /071 W  
-----050284 311038Z /14  
O 311009Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8394

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 18696

TEHRAN FOR PRESIDENTIAL PARTY

FOR BRZEZINSKI FROM THORNTON

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: IN, US, SU  
SUBJECT: INDIAN SENSITIVITY ABOUT US COMMENTS ON INDO-SOVIET  
RELATIONS

1. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT IN THE LAST TWO DAYS  
AT LEAST TWO INDIAN PAPERS HAVE REFERRED UNFAVORABLY  
TO THE PRESIDENT'S COMMENT ON THE GOI'S MOVING  
AWAY FROM THE SOVIETS AND TOWARD US. THE DECEMBER 30  
"TIMES OF INDIA" CITES "COMPETENT CIRCLES" AS  
SAYING THAT THE REMARK IS NOT TAKEN AS A COMPLIMENT.  
THESE "CIRCLES" REPORTEDLY EXPLAIN THAT "THERE IS  
NO QUESTION OF INDIA MOVING TOWARD ANY COUNTRY, BIG OR  
SMALL" AND THAT THE DESAI GOVERNMENT "CONTINUES TO VALUE  
ITS FRIENDSHIP WITH BOTH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE  
UNITED STATES AND IT IS NOT CONTRADICTIONARY." (ARTICLE  
DID NOT MENTION THAT PRESIDENT HAD SAID THAT INDIANS WERE  
ASSUMING A ROLE OF NEUTRALITY.)

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2. INDIAN EXPRESS PICKED UP SAME THEME THIS MORNING IN AN  
OTHERWISE FAVORABLE EDITORIAL WELCOMING PRESIDENT'S  
VISIT. EDIT POINTED OUT THAT PRESIDENT'S REFERENCE TO A  
PRO-SOVIET TILT IN INDIAN POLICY SHOULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED  
AS EMBARRASSING.

3. AMBASSADOR QUERIED PALKIVALA YESTERDAY ABOUT THE

SOURCE OF THE TIMES OF INDIA ITEM. PALKHIVALA SAID THAT  
HE WAS SURE NEITHER THE FOREIGN MINISTER NOR FOREIGN  
SECRETARY MEHTA (WHO HAD HIMSELF EXTENSIVELY BRIEFED THE  
PRESS EARLIER) WOULD HAVE MADE SUCH COMMENTS. PALKIVALA  
ADDED THAT THERE WERE OTHERS IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL  
AFFAIRS WHO MIGHT HAVE, HOWEVER.  
GOHEEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977NEWDE18696  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780004-0310  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 1ee020fb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INDIAN SENSITIVITY ABOUT US COMMENTS ON INDO-SOVIET RELATIONS  
**TAGS:** PDEV, IN, US, UR  
**To:** TEHRAN  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009